28th March 1955]

MR. SPEAKER :—" We will take up the questions to be answered by the Hon. Minister for Religious Endowments and the Hon. Minister for Local Administration on the 30th instant."

State Insurance Scheme.

* 1666 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Government propose to extend the State Insurance Scheme to Malabar and if so, when? when?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" It is too early now to say when the scheme will be extended to Malabar. Attention is invited to my reply on the subject given on 21st December 1954 in answering a supplementary question put by the hon. Member."

Literacy Centres for Women in slum areas.

* 1668 *Q.*—SRI S. PAKKIRISAWMI PILLAI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the number of Literacy Centres for Women run by the Women's Welfare Organization in the slums in the City of Madras?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Two, Sir."

SRI S. PAKKIRISAWMI PILLAI :—" What are the subjects taught in these centres and what is the amount spent for that purpose? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" In these centres, adult literacy classes are conducted for the members who are interested in learning how to read and write. The organizers are making all efforts to improve the attendance by encouraging the women to attend the classes. At present 15 members are attending the literacy classes in each of the three centres."

Rent Courts for North Malabar.

* 1669 *Q.*—SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR (on behalf of Sri V. R. Krishna Ayyar) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any requests from the Collector of Malabar or from the Kisan Council, Malabar, requesting for more Rent Courts in North Malabar; and

(*b*) if so, what action has been taken on such representation?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" (*a*) & (*b*) A representation was received from the Chirakkal Taluk Kisan Sangam for opening new Rent Courts at Taliparamba and Irukkur. The Collector of Malabar has reported that he is

[28th March 1955

examining the necessity for opening more Rent Courts in Malabar. The Government have instructed the Board of Revenue to see that the question is expeditiously examined and a report submitted to Government very urgently."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" In view of the importance of the matter and in view of the fact that the people in about three firkas are asked to go to the Rent Court at Cannanore, will the Government see that Rent Courts are opened immediately at Taliparamba and Irukkur."

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" That is what I have stated in my answer. It is being very urgently looked into."

Illicit cutting of trees in South Kanara.

* 1670 *Q.*—SRI K. ISHWARA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of cases of illicit cutting of trees from Government forests detected in South Kanara district during 1950 to 1954; and

(*b*) whether the Government have received any representation from the Puttur workers to stop cutting of the trees?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) One thousand four hundred and sixty-nine cases.

"(*b*) No, Sir."

Pepper vines.

* 1672 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have conducted any experiment to grow pepper vines by spraying water method; and

(*b*) if so, how far the experiment has been successful?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*b*) The experiments conducted at the Pepper Research Station, Panniyur, have shown that the sprinkling or spraying or watering of the pepper vines will induce them to flush and spike during dry season. The chief agency for natural pollination of pepper being rain water, the spraying or sprinkling of water in the flowering season will induce proper pollination and consequently, optimum crop sets."